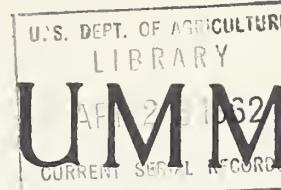


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Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S.D.A.

Washington, D. C.

SS-206

January 20, 1960

STATISTICAL SUMMARY

More Feed Grain Stocks, Fewer Food Grains Than Last Year's High Levels

Farm stocks of feed grains, January 1, were 6 percent above the previous record a year earlier and about a third above average. Stocks of food grains on farms were down from last year's high level by more than a fourth and were a little below average.

Corn Stocks Top Average by 39 Percent

After 2 years of record-high production, farm stocks of corn are estimated at 3,094 million bushels, largest of record. This January 1 estimate is 15 percent above the prior record of a year earlier, tops the 1949-58 average by 39 percent.

Disappearance from farms October through December was 1,226 million bushels, 11 percent above a year earlier and 16 percent above the 1949-58 average disappearance.

Smaller Stocks of Oats and Barley

Oats on farms January 1, at 699 million bushels, were down from a year earlier by 26 percent and 15 percent below average. October-December disappearance of 199 million bushels was 50 million bushels less than a year earlier.

Sorghum Grain Stocks Near Record

The 192 million bushels of sorghum grains on farms January 1 were the second largest on record. Stocks increased nearly a million bushels from a year earlier and were 121 million bushels above average. Disappearance from farms October thru December was 406 million bushels compared with the record 433 million during the same quarter a year earlier.

Sharply Lower Wheat Stocks

Wheat stocks on farms January 1 were estimated at 332 million bushels, sharply below the previous year and moderately below average. Disappearance from farms October through December, at 124 million bushels, was relatively small compared with 187 million during the same quarter in 1958 and the average movement of 129 million for the period. Stocks of wheat stored on farms were smaller than a year earlier in all regions except the South Atlantic.

The North Central States accounted for nearly 60 percent of all U.S. farm stocks of wheat, with the Dakotas, Nebraska, and Kansas holding one-half of all stocks. The Western region accounted for more than a third of the U.S. stocks. Over a fourth of the U.S. total was located in Montana, Idaho, and Colorado.

Rye Stocks Much Below Last Year

The 7.1 million bushels of rye on farms January 1 were down from a year earlier by 45 percent and were 8 percent below the January 1 average. Over half of the total stocks were in the Dakotas and Nebraska.

Relatively Large Stocks of Soybeans

An estimated 198 million bushels of soybeans were stored on farms January 1, down 4 million bushels from a year ago but up from the 10-year average by 75 percent. The North Central States accounted for 87 percent of the total U.S. stocks.

The October-December disappearance was about 357 million bushels compared with 380 million for the same quarter in 1958.

Better than Average Hay Supplies

Supplies of hay on hand January 1 were 12 percent less than the record stocks on farms a year earlier but 9 percent more than the 10-year average for that date. Current supplies, estimated at 79.3 million tons, are the third largest for January 1.

Hay supplies were larger than the average January 1 stocks in all geographic divisions. In the North Atlantic States, supplies were 5 percent less than a year earlier. In the North Central States, which account for about 3/5 of the total U.S. hay stocks, the supplies were 12 percent less than on January 1, 1959 but 9 percent above average. Stocks were 12 percent less in the South Atlantic States and 14 percent smaller in the South Central States than a year earlier. In the Western region, supplies were 14 percent less than on January 1, 1959 but 7 percent more than average.

Prices of Farm Products

Commodity	Average Prices received by farmers		Effective parity prices Based on data for Dec. 1959
	Nov. 15, 1959	Dec. 15, 1959	
Basic commodities:			
Cotton, Amer. upland (lb.)....	.30.84	.30.03	.37.93
Wheat (bu.) dol.	1.79	1.79	2.36
Rice (100 lb.)..... dol.	4.64	4.59	5.82
Corn (bu.)..... dol.	.982	.959	1.71
Peanuts (lb.)..... ct.	9.87	10.4	12.9
Designated nonbasic commodities:			
Milkfat in cream (lb.)60.9	.61.8	.73.4
Milk, wholesale (100 lb.)..... dol.	4.60	14.51	4.93
Wool (lb.)..... ct.	240.9	241.7	71.9
Other nonbasic commodities:			
Barley (bu.)..... dol.	.879	.864	1.28
Cottonseed (ton)..... dol.	38.80	39.10	66.80
Flaxseed (bu.)..... dol.	3.44	3.20	3.95
Hay, baled (ton)..... dol.	21.00	21.90	25.10
Oats (bu.)..... dol.	.669	.677	.835
Potatoes (cwt.)..... dol.	1.82	1.89	2.32
Rye (bu.)..... dol.	1.01	.960	1.50
Sorghum, grain (100 lb.)..... dol.	1.51	1.50	2.53
Soybeans (bu.)..... dol.	2.00	1.98	2.89
Sweetpotatoes (cwt.)..... dol.	2.61	3.43	5.52
Oranges, Equiv. on tree ³ (Box) dol.	1.81	1.81	2.20
Apples, for fresh use (bu.) dol.	2.00	2.09	2.47
Beef cattle (100 lb.)..... dol.	20.00	19.50	23.10
Calves (100 lb.)	23.90	23.10	25.40
Hogs (100 lb.)	12.20	11.20	21.60
Lambs (100 lb.)..... dol.	17.20	16.60	25.60
Chickens, all (lb.)..... ct.	13.8	16.2	26.8
Eggs (dozen)	31.3	30.7	47.2

¹Preliminary

²Does not include incentive payment to bring season average return to 62 cents per pound.

³Excludes tangerines, previously included.

Flaxseed Stocks Unusually Small

Flaxseed stocks on farms January 1, at 7.6 million bushels were the smallest of record beginning in 1948, only half as large as a year earlier and slightly more than half the 10-year average. Nearly two-thirds of the total stocks were in North Dakota, most of the remainder in Minnesota and South Dakota.

Disappearance from farms October through December totaled only 2.3 million bushels, smallest of record and about a third of the average disappearance for that quarter.

Orange Crop Slightly Larger Than Last Season

The orange crop (not including tangerines) is estimated at nearly 133 million boxes, 3 percent more than last year and 12 percent above the average crop. Estimates include 68.5 million boxes of Early, Midseason, and Naval oranges

and 64.4 million Valencias--the former up about 4 percent, the latter about 2 percent from last season.

Grapefruit, Average Crop; Fewer Tangerines

Grapefruit production is estimated at 42.8 million boxes, about an average crop but 2 percent less than last season's crop.

Tangerines, estimated at 3.3 million boxes, are 27 percent less than both last year and average, though well above production in the freeze year of 1957-58.

Fewer Winter Potatoes Than Last Year

The 1960 winter potato production is estimated at 3,464,000 hundredweight--14 percent below the 1959 winter crop, and 17 percent smaller than the average. January 1 estimate is about 5 percent above the forecast on December 1.

Larger Late Spring Acreage Indicated

Growers in the late spring potato areas indicate intentions to plant 146,500 acres in 1960--about 6 percent more than the 138,800 acres planted in 1959.

Livestock and Livestock Products

Item	1958		1959		
	Dec.	Yr.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.
Nonfarm employment, (civilian) ¹	59.0	58.1	60.7	60.0	60.9
Farm employment	5.6	7.5	8.6	6.6	5.3
Family	4.6	5.6	6.2	5.1	4.3
Hired.....	1.0	2.0	2.5	1.5	1.0
Index numbers (1947-49 = 100)					
Industrial production ²	151	141	155	156	165
Total personal income payments ³	180	176	188	189	-
Weekly factory earnings ⁴	160	149	166	166	173
Average earnings of factory workers, per worker ⁴	166	158	168	168	173
Wholesale prices, all commodities ⁴	119	119	119	119	119
Farm commodities	91	95	86	85	86
Food, processed.....	109	111	106	105	105
Consumer price index ⁴	124	124	126	126	-
Food	119	120	118	118	-
Index numbers (1910-14 = 100)					
Prices received by farmers.....	244	250	235	230	228
Crops.....	213	223	219	216	217
Food grains.....	199	208	203	206	206
Feed grains and hay.....	151	154	149	150	149
Cotton.....	256	253	274	260	254
Tobacco	504	482	505	504	491
Oil bearing crops	214	225	208	216	215
Fruit	217	249	214	199	198
Vegetables	220	240	241	228	258
Livestock and products.....	270	273	248	243	238
Meat animals.....	328	334	291	275	264
Dairy products	270	254	273	279	274
Poultry and eggs	155	169	138	139	148
Prices paid by farmers.....	274	273	275	275	275
All commodities.....	287	287	290	291	291
Used in living.....	265	264	264	264	264
Used in production	295	293	296	297	297
Commodities, interest, taxes, and wage rates (parity index).....	594	574	602	602	602
Farm wage rates, seasonally adjusted	83	85	79	77	77

¹Bureau of the Census.

²Federal Reserve Board, revised--now includes utilities.

³Department of Commerce.

⁴Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Cattle.....	1,000 head	21,673	20,950
Calves.....	1,000 head	8,564	7,074
Hogs.....	1,000 head	64,018	73,319
Sheep and lambs	1,000 head	12,950	14,088

¹January-December.

²Commercial; excludes farm slaughter.

³By commercial hatcheries.

Potato Stocks Down; More Onions

Potatoes held by growers and local dealers on January 1 totaled 97.5 million hundredweight--down 10 percent from a year earlier.

Sound onions in storage (common and cold, storage) January 1, totaled 5,677,000 cwt., 30 percent larger than a year earlier and 17 percent above average. Holdings were the largest since 1954.

Smaller Milk Output (Per Capita Basis)

The 9,374 million pounds of milk produced in December is about the same as in December a year earlier but is 10 percent above average for the month. Enough was produced to provide 1.69 pounds of milk per person, per day--2 percent below both December a year ago and the 10-year December average.

For the entire year 1959, the 12 monthly production estimates total 124.3 billion pounds compared with 125.2 billion pounds produced in 1958, a reduction of less than 1 percent. This figure is only tentative until final figures are published on Feb. 12.

Fewer Eggs in December; More for Full Year

Hens laid 5,133 million eggs in December--3 percent less than in December 1958. Egg production was below a year earlier in all regions of the Nation except the South Atlantic and West where increases of 6 percent occurred in each region. Number of layers January 1, at 314,674,000, was down 4 percent from a year earlier. Potential layers, including all pullets, totaled 343,836,000. This was 5 percent below a year earlier.

Production of eggs January through December, 1959, totaled 61,953 million eggs compared with 60,681 million for the 12 months in 1958.

Feeding for Eggs Less Favorable; for Broilers and Turkeys, More Favorable

The egg-feed and farm chicken-feed price ratios on December 15, 1959 were less favorable to producers than a year earlier. The broiler-feed and turkey-feed ratios were more favorable than a year earlier.

Farm poultry ration in mid-December cost an average of \$3.31 per 100 pounds, 4 cents less than in December 1958. Broiler ration averaged \$4.67, down 27 cents and turkey growing mash was \$4.64, down 17 cents from a year earlier.

Fewer Sheep and Lambs on Feed

The 4,140,000 head of sheep and lambs on feed January 1 were less than a year earlier by 308,000 head or about 7 percent. Sheep and lamb slaughter September through November was up 12 percent from a year earlier.

More Cattle on Feed

The 7.2 million head of cattle and calves on feed for market in 26 feeding States, January 1, compare with 6.6 million a year earlier--an increase of 9 percent.

An additional 366,000 head were on feed for market in 11 Southeastern States January 1 this year (no comparisons available on these as this is the first time such data has been made available for these Southeastern States).

Wheat Prospects About Same as Last Year

Winter wheat (new crop) received light snow cover during December. Mild temperatures prevented any injury to the crop, much of which was seeded late and had made only limited fall growth. Moisture supplies are mostly adequate or better--sufficient for the remainder of the winter.

Winter wheat, indicated December 1 at 926 million bushels, would be about the same as last year's crop, though 21 percent less than the record crop of 1958. Seeded acreage, at 44,389,000 acres, compares with 44,612,000 for the 1959 crop and 50,046,000 average.

Cash Receipts from Farm Marketings by States, November 1959¹

State	Livestock and products	Crops	Total
	1,000 dollars	1,000 dollars	1,000 dollars
Maine.....	8,013	5,027	13,040
New Hampshire.....	3,807	1,023	4,830
Vermont.....	7,864	786	8,650
Massachusetts.....	8,630	6,968	15,598
Rhode Island.....	1,250	618	1,868
Connecticut.....	8,134	9,428	17,562
New York.....	49,874	16,078	65,952
New Jersey.....	14,193	5,103	19,296
Pennsylvania.....	48,110	15,141	63,251
Ohio.....	47,828	38,162	85,990
Indiana.....	46,986	36,231	83,217
Illinois.....	96,237	93,383	189,620
Michigan.....	30,825	27,776	58,601
Wisconsin.....	69,710	9,053	78,763
Minnesota.....	78,854	44,348	123,202
Iowa.....	167,069	37,006	204,075
Missouri.....	57,499	74,025	131,524
North Dakota.....	18,691	33,487	52,178
South Dakota.....	45,425	10,698	56,123
Nebraska.....	69,094	37,811	106,905
Kansas.....	43,242	44,069	87,311
Delaware.....	5,346	5,942	11,288
Maryland.....	13,749	8,561	22,310
Virginia.....	21,718	45,515	67,233
West Virginia.....	8,251	2,617	10,868
North Carolina.....	22,830	133,308	156,138
South Carolina.....	8,416	33,521	41,937
Georgia.....	27,248	40,676	67,924
Florida.....	16,662	30,697	47,359
Kentucky.....	21,698	61,552	83,250
Tennessee.....	19,090	66,262	85,252
Alabama.....	20,157	45,286	65,443
Mississippi.....	19,429	98,593	118,022
Arkansas.....	19,522	135,669	155,191
Louisiana.....	12,096	43,439	55,535
Oklahoma.....	25,778	46,014	71,792
Texas.....	64,970	261,143	326,113
Montana.....	43,448	26,025	69,473
Idaho.....	18,188	38,033	56,221
Wyoming.....	15,692	7,985	23,677
Colorado.....	32,887	38,106	70,993
New Mexico.....	24,199	20,946	45,145
Arizona.....	18,669	43,925	62,594
Utah.....	12,837	6,550	19,387
Nevada.....	3,736	1,445	5,181
Washington.....	17,074	40,159	57,233
Oregon.....	11,347	17,806	29,153
California.....	89,669	271,899	361,568
United States.....	1,536,041	2,117,895	3,653,936

¹All figures represent sales of farm products, plus Commodity Credit loans reported during the month minus Commodity Credit loans repaid during the month. For comparisons of cash receipts with earlier months and years, see issues of the Farm Income Situation.

Cash Receipts from Farming and Index of Volume of Farm Marketings, United States¹

	November 1959	
CASH RECEIPTS:		
Total marketings and CCC loans ²	<i>Mil. dol.</i> 3,654	
Livestock and products	1,536	
Meat animals	894	
Dairy products.....	362	
Poultry and eggs.....	264	
Other	16	
Crops.....	2,118	
Food grains.....	163	
Feed crops	287	
Cotton (lint and seed).....	667	
Oil-bearing crops	325	
Tobacco.....	187	
Vegetables	105	
Fruits and tree nuts.....	137	
Other	247	
Government payments	141	
Grand total	3,795	
VOLUME OF FARM MARKETINGS:		
	1947-49 = 100	
All commodities.....	175	
Livestock and products.....	139	
Crops.....	223	

¹For comparison with earlier months and years, see issues of the Farm Income Situation. ²Receipts from loans represent value of loans minus value of redemptions during the month.

Farm-Retail Price Spreads

Farm-Retail Spread and Farmer's Share of the Consumer's Dollar for Market Basket of Farm-food Products

Year and month	Retail cost ¹	Farm value ²	Farm-retail spread	Farmer's share
1958 average	\$1,065	\$427	\$638	40%
1958 Nov.	1,049	408	641	39%
1959 Oct.	1,037	390	647	38%
1959 Nov.	1,030	386	644	37%

¹Retail cost of average quantities of farm foods purchased per urban wage-earner and clerical-worker family in 1952, calculated from retail prices collected by Bureau of Labor Statistics.

²Payment to farmers for equivalent quantities of farm produce minus imputed value of byproducts obtained in processing.

Fewer Chicks Hatched, More Poulets

Production of chicks by commercial hatcheries in December was down 8 percent from December 1958, but up 31 percent from the 1953-57 average. Heavy breed turkey poulets hatched in December show an increase of 22 percent from a year earlier.

Farm Workers at Seasonal Low--6% Below Year Earlier

The 5.3 million persons at work on farms in late December compared with 5.6 million a year earlier. Farm family workers numbered about 4.3 million, hired workers less than 1 million--both groups down about 6 percent from a year earlier.

Increased School Lunch Participation

The number of schools participating in the National School Lunch Program continued upward during the past year--increasing in fiscal '59 to 60,802 schools. The number of children eating lunches with milk under the Program rose to 12 million. And the number of schools and child-care institutions taking part in the Special Milk Program increased to 81,565 from a total of 76,478 in the previous year. Milk consumption under the program totaled 2,176 million half pints, up about 13 percent over the previous fiscal year.

Correction For Last Month's Issue-- In table on page 2 headed "Livestock and Livestock products", too many poulets hatched were shown. Figures were erroneously written for "thousands" instead of millions. Should have been heavy breeds, 70.8 millions instead of 70,765, etc.